

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT AND DRAFT SECTION 4(f) EVALUATION

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NO. 4935.79

PORTAGEVILLE BRIDGE PROJECT (WYOMING AND LIVINGSTON COUNTIES, NEW YORK)

The Portageville Bridge (also known as the Portage High Bridge) spans the Genesee River within Livingston and Wyoming Counties, New York. The purpose of the Project is to address the existing deficiencies at the Portageville Bridge on the Southern Tier rail freight route across the Genesee River by providing a modern rail crossing of the Genesee River at its current location that is capable of carrying current industry standard freight rail loads, to the greatest degree possible meeting Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Class 4 speeds, while reducing ongoing maintenance efforts and costs. The Project is needed in order for Norfolk Southern, the Project Sponsor, to continue safe, reliable, and efficient rail operations on the Southern Tier route. These operations are critical to the economic viability and growth of the Southern Tier and other affected areas of New York.

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and Draft Section 4(f) Evaluation (per Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966) have been prepared for the Project. The DEIS assesses the Project's effect on the quality of the human environment in accordance with the provisions of Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 P.L. 91-190 (NEPA). The DEIS also addresses requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and evaluates a proposed conversion of approximately two acres of land in Letchworth State Park in accordance with Section 6(f)(3) of the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Act.

Copies of the DEIS are available for review and copying during business hours at:

- New York State Department of Transportation Region 4 Offices, 1530 Jefferson Rd, Rochester, NY;
- Letchworth State Park Visitors' Center, Castile, NY;
- Bell Memorial Library, 16 East St, Nunda, NY;
- Mt. Morris Library, 121 Main St, Mount Morris, NY;
- Cordelia A. Greene Library, 11 South Main St, Castile, NY;
- Perry Public Library, 70 North Main St, Perry, NY; and
- Pike Library, 65 Main Street West, Pike, NY

The document is also available on the project website: www.dot.ny.gov/portagevillebridge

Comments on the DEIS should be sent to Raymond F. Hessinger, P.E., Director, Freight & Passenger Rail Bureau, New York State Department of Transportation, 50 Wolf Road POD 5-4, Albany, NY 12232; or Jonathan McDade, FHWA Division Administrator, Leo W. O'Brien Federal Building, 11A Clinton Avenue, Suite 719, Albany, NY 12207; or submitted by email to PortagevilleBridge@dot.ny.gov.

Comments should be received by 5PM on September 15, 2014.